I, Holly Rhodes, hereby certify that this correspondence is being

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Date of Signature

Appl. No. 09/935,520 Amdt. dated February 21, 2004

Reply to Office action of January 22, 2004

Appl. No. : 09/935,520 9109

Confirmation No.

: Edward Thornton, et al.

Applicant

August 23, 2001 TUMBLER FOR

MARINATING FOOD

PRODUCT

1761

Examiner

Drew E. Becker

Docket No.

22116-9002-01

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

Sir:

This is in response to the Office action of January 22, 2004. Applicants elect Group I (claims 1-15 and 24-31) for prosecution.

Applicants have also been required to elect a single species, with claims 1-5, 14, 15 and 24-26 being generic. Applicants elect the species of claims 7-11, with traverse. The prior art relevant to the elected species will include the prior art relevant to the non-elected species. In other words, the Examiner will not have to do a significant amount of additional searching to adequately search the non-elected species.

An action on the merits of claims 1-15 and 24-31 is respectfully requested.

Reg. No. 31,557

Docket No.: 22116-9002-01 Michael Best & Friedrich LLP 100 East Wisconsin Avenue Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202-4108

(414) 271-6560